

Def. Doc. No. 559

Excerpts from book entitled "EVENTS LEADING UP TO WORLD WAR II", published by United States Government Printing Office, Washington: 1945

Relating to the Baltic States

From p. 218

September 28, 1939. Estonia signed 10-year mutual assistance pact with Russia, giving latter material, air bases, and military rights. ("Being desirous of promoting the friendly relations which were established by the Treaty of Peace concluded on February 2, 1920, and which are founded upon independent political existence and non-interference in internal affairs of the other contracting party;

"recognizing that the Treaty of Peace of February 2, 1920 and the Pact of Non-aggression and Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts of May 4, 1932, continue as heretofore the firm foundation of their mutual relations;

"Being convinced that it is in the interests of both of the contracting parties to determine the exact terms of insuring their mutual security;.... Bulletin, Vol. I, No. 20, p. 543.)

From p. 219

October 5, 1939. Latvia signed 10-year mutual aid treaty (giving Russia naval and air bases on Baltic).....("for the purpose of developing the friendly relations created by the peace treaty of August 11, 1920, which were based on the recognition of the independent statehood and non-interference in the internal affairs of the other party;...." Ibid., No. 20, p. 542; Latvia, p. 103)

Russia invited Finland to political discussion...(Finnish No. 10, p. 42: "Now that the international situation has altered on account of the war!")

From P. 220

October 10, 1939. Russia concluded 15-year mutual assistance pact with Lithuania for military and air bases to fortify Lithuanian-German frontier." (Ibid., No. 25, p. 705)

From p. 221

October 19, 1939. Poland protested to Lithuania the acceptance of territory ceded by Russia. ("...which does not belong to said Union" Bulletin, Vol. I, No. 17, p. 403.)

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From p. 243

June 12, 1940. Russia accused Lithuania of military alliance against her. (Bulletin, LATVIA, p. 112.)

From pp. 244-45

June 15, 1940. Russian troops marched into Lithuania. (After acceptance of ultimatum by Lithuania, Times, June 16, 1940)

June 16, 1940. Russia delivered ultimatum to Latvia. ("...To achieve the honest and legal execution of the Latvian-Soviet Pact of Mutual Assistance." Latvia, p. 107.)

June 17, 1940. Russia announced Estonia and Latvia had agreed to free passage of Russian troops and to formation of new governments. (Following ultimatums. "On the basis of factual data at the disposal of the Soviet government, and also on the basis of an exchange of views lately held in Moscow between Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R. Molotov and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Merleys, the Soviet government considers as an established fact that the Latvian government not only did not cancel the military alliance with Estonia created prior to the conclusion of the Soviet-Latvian mutual-assistance pact and directed against the U.S.S.R., but extended it by drawing Lithuania also into this alliance, and by attempts to draw Finland into it also...Latvia jointly with the other Baltic States engaged in activating and extending the military alliance, which was proved by such acts as convocation of two secret conferences of the three Baltic States in December 1939 and March 1940, for formal conclusion of an enlarged military alliance with Estonia and Lithuania; intensification of connections of the General Staffs of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania effected in secret from the U.S.S.R. and the founding in February 1940, of a special publication of the Baltic military entente, Revue Baltique, issued in the English, French and German languages....The government considers that such a situation cannot be tolerated any longer." Ibid., June 17, 1940, p. 6. Cf. Latvia, p. 122.)

From p. 251

July 21, 1940. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania asked incorporation into Russia. (By resolution of newly elected Communist-dominated parliaments which proclaimed them Soviet republics. Times, July 22, 1940, p. 1.)